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AUG 2 3 2004

Attorney Docket No. 56,436 (71699)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

D. Stoianovici, et al.

EXAMINER:

Nguyen, Vi X

U.S.S.N.:

09/943,751

GROUP:

3731

FILED:

August 30, 2001

Conf. No.

8459

FOR:

CONTROLLABLE MOTORIZED DEVICE FOR PERCUTANEOUS NEEDLE PLACEMENT IN SOFT TISSUE TARGET AND METHODS

AND SYSTEMS RELATED THERETO

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9306 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 23, 2004.

EXAMINING GROUP 3731 RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Sir:

The following is in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 23, 2004, in the above referenced application.

A petition has also been filed herewith requesting a two (2) month extension of time to August 23, 2004, to respond to the above referenced Office Action. Applicants also conditionally petition for a further extension time to provide for the possibility that such a

Applicant: D. Stoianovici, et al.

U.S.S.N.: 09/943,751

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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petition is required. As indicated below, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105 for the required fee.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 21 of this paper.